

**FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301
February 19, 2009 - 6:00 p.m.

Board Member	Attendance	1/2009 through 12/2009 Cumulative Attendance	
		P	A
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	1	0
Don Bastedo	A	0	1
Steve Kirsch	P	1	0
Allan Kozich	P	1	0
Patrick McTigue	P	1	0
June Page	P	1	0
Douglas Ruth	P	1	0
Norman Thabit	A	0	1

Staff

Eric Pologruto, Division Chief
Jeff Justinak, Fire Chief
Frank Snedaker, City Architect
Mark Friedman, City Construction Manager
Albert Carbon, Director Public Works Department
J. Opperee, ProtoType Services Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jarrett called the meeting of the Fire-Rescue Bond Blue Ribbon Committee to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: December 2008

Motion made by Mr. McTigue, seconded by Mr. Ruth, to approve the minutes of the Board's December 2008 meeting. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

3. Staff Liaison Report

Construction

Station 29

Mr. Carbon and Mr. Friedman remarked that construction was going well. Mr. Carbon added that bids had come in where they expected them to be.

Pre-construction

Station 49

Mr. Carbon reminded the Board that an outside architect had designed Station 49. He reported they had received bids for \$2.5 million, which was significantly under budget.

Mr. Friedman stated the temporary station would be ready in mid-March. Mr. Carbon said the contract had been awarded to Gates on Tuesday, and the contractor should be ready to start in March as well.

Station 3

Mr. Snedaker said they had received a bid for \$1.977 million from DiPompeo Construction. The contract would be on the March 3 City Commission agenda for approval.

Design

Station 35

Mr. Carbon stated staff was in the process of finalizing the property swap agreement with Shepherd of the Coast Church. The Church's board had not yet approved the agreement, and their attorneys were still working to resolve the parking issue. The Church wanted the City to pay for a portion of parking area resurfacing in the future.

Mr. Carbon said Pastor Dan planned to move out of the building designated for demolition on the first of September.

Mr. Carbon informed the Board they had issued contracts for a couple of sub consultants: the electrical engineers and structural engineers. The City Commission had approved these contracts at their last meeting.

Preliminary Design

Station 46

Mr. Carbon stated they were scheduled for the County Planning Council in June, but they were hoping to be rescheduled to the April meeting. Mr. Carbon said the Lauderdale Manors Homeowners Association, the City Commission and the City's Parks and Recreation Department supported moving the station to Mills Pond Park. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board opposed using Park property because this would result in a loss of park space.

Chief Pologruto explained that recently annexed areas out west had suffered poor response times, and relocating the station to Mills Pond Park would result in a huge improvement of services for those areas.

Mr. Carbon stated the City would relocate three playing fields in Mills Pond Park, and would also build a new maintenance/restrooms/concession building for the park.

Station 13

Mr. Carbon said they had been negotiating with the State to get a different piece of property. The City had agreed to all of the State's requests: undergrounding of utilities, installation of fencing, drainage improvements, and the planting of native landscaping. Mr. Carbon explained that the State must obtain approval from Antioch College to give the land to the City.

Mr. Carbon explained to Ms. Page that when Birch State Park was created, the City had been granted a 200-foot x 200-foot parcel of the Park property on which to build a fire station. Since then, Sunrise Boulevard had been widened 40 feet, and the property had been reduced to 160 feet deep. The City was asking the park to provide 40 feet to get back to the original property dimensions.

Station 54

Mr. Carbon said City staff was talking to the property owner regarding a property swap. Staff would meet with the City Manager to discuss this proposal in two weeks.

Station 8

Mr. Carbon said staff was still seeking property and the southeast portion of the City, ideally in the vicinity of Davie Boulevard and 3rd Avenue.

4. Member Discussion Items

Mr. Carbon stated there were specific funds in President Obama's stimulus package set aside for firefighters and/or fire stations, and the City had requested just over \$7 million.

Mr. Carbon informed the Board that the next projects to go out to bid were 13, 35 and 54. The first to be bid would probably be 35 in September. He believed Station 46 was still more than one year away.

Chair Jarrett warned that radically low bidders could sometimes fail to complete projects. He asked Mr. Snedaker to describe how the performance bond was written and what would happen if a contractor failed to complete a project. Mr. Snedaker explained that all of the bidders had been pre-qualified for experience and financial soundness, so he did not anticipate this to be a problem.

Mr. Snedaker stated that bonds were required for every public project. The first was a bid bond, which was generally 5% of the cost of the bid, paid in the event the contractor rejected the contract. The second was a performance/payment bond, paid if at any point the contractor failed to complete the work or was terminated. Mr. Snedaker explained that if the contractor did not complete the work, the bonding company hired another contractor. Mr. Carbon added that the City had very little control over whom the bonding company selected. Mr. Kozich explained that the bonding company would make up any difference between what the second contractor wanted to charge to complete the job and remaining funds. He cautioned that the City must ensure the first contractor was not overpaid based on percentage of completion.

5. Adjournment

Next regular meeting: March 19, 2009

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Attachments:

- Financial Report
- Minutes – December 18, 2008
- Fire Station Monthly Reports
- Program schedule

[Minutes prepared by J. Oppert, Prototype, Inc.]